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UNITED NATIONS NEW AGENDA FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA IN THE 1990s

Algeria: draft resolution

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,

Also reaffirming its resolution 45/253 of 21 December 1990 on programme planning, in which the economic recovery and development of Africa are spelt out as one of the five overall priorities reflected in the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997,

Recalling its resolutions 45/178 of 19 December 1990 and 45/200 of 21 December 1990 on the critical economic situation in Africa and on African commodity problems, respectively,

Taking note of decisions 1992/19 of 26 May 1992 and 1993/17 of 18 June 1993 adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme on the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,

Taking note further of resolution CM/Res.1415 (LVI) of 28 June 1992 of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity on the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,

Also taking note of the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure the successful implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,

Recognizing the persistent efforts undertaken by African countries to implement political and economic reform policies in quest of alleviating poverty and achieving economic and social development,

Mindful of the need for African countries to diversify their primary commodities with a view to modernizing African production, distribution and marketing systems, enhancing productivity and stabilizing and increasing African export earnings in the face of the persistent decline of the prices of primary commodities and the continuous deterioration in the terms of trade of African economies,

Reaffirming the importance of addressing the challenges facing African agricultural sectors, inter alia, drought, desertification, land degradation and locust infestation, so as to achieve African food security as outlined in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,

Deeply concerned at the investments/savings gap experienced by Africa owing, inter alia, to the continuing decline of financial resource flows to Africa aggravated by rising debt and debt-service obligations in Africa, the only continent experiencing a negative net transfer of these resources in the 1990s,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to achieve a 4 per cent real growth in annual official development assistance to Africa during the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, as well as to intensify the investment flows to Africa according to paragraph 30 of the New Agenda,

Mindful of the need for African countries to increase domestic savings and mobilize internal resources for sustainable development and, to that end, the need for further improvements in African financial intermediations and practices,

Taking note of the International Conference on African Development, convened at Tokyo on 5 and 6 October 1993, and of the Declaration adopted,

Having considered the three reports of the Secretary-General on the preliminary consideration of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, 1/ the need for and feasibility of the establishment of a diversification fund for Africa's commodities, 2/ and financial resource flows to Africa, 3/

1. Reaffirms the high priority attached, in the medium-term plan 1992-1997, to Africa's economic recovery and development, including the effective implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s as integrated in Programme 45;

1/ A/48/334.

2/ A/48/335 and Add.1.

3/ A/48/336 and Corr.1.

2. Takes note with appreciation of the establishment of a panel of high-level personalities to advise and assist the Secretary-General on African development, in particular on the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, and requests that this panel continue to meet regularly under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General and that its recommendations be made available to the Member States;

3. Urges all United Nations organs, organizations and programmes to integrate the priorities of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s in their mandates and to allocate additional resources for their operation;

4. Recommends that interested African countries be assisted in the monitoring of the impact of the work being undertaken in the context of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and in ensuring the participation of the community-based groups, particularly women;

5. Renew its call upon the international community to provide the support committed in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s to African countries as they continue to pursue vigorously their responsibilities and commitments under the New Agenda;

6. Urges the United Nations system and its organizations to increase their technical and financial support to African regional economic groupings, including the African Economic Community, in order to contribute to their effectiveness in the process of African economic development;

7. Decides that the conceptual framework, design and implementation of structural adjustment policies in Africa should be significantly improved, with special attention being given to alleviating poverty and addressing the severe social impact of these policies, while focusing on public investment, fiscal reform, public enterprises, export expansion and public administration;

8. Invites the preparatory bodies of all forthcoming conferences of the United Nations system to take into account the specific needs, requirements and priorities of the African countries, as outlined in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

9. Also invites the Secretary-General to strengthen the institutional capacity of the Secretariat to raise international awareness of the urgent international and African actions needed to overcome the continent's economic crisis, and to reinforce the capabilities of the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the least developed countries to follow up, monitor and evaluate implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and, in the process, provide an effective framework for the Economic and Social Council to consider the implementation of the New Agenda in 1995 at its high-level segment, as well as for the General Assembly to conduct a mid-term review of the implementation of the New Agenda in 1996;

10. Calls upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to work in close coordination and cooperation with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity, in particular, on the follow-up to and review and

evaluation of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

11. Decides to establish a diversification fund for Africa's commodities within the African Development Bank for an initial period of three to four years with initial resources of $75 million to assist in the preparation of commodity diversification projects and programmes;

12. Requests the Secretary-General, in collaboration with appropriate regional and subregional organizations, including the Organization of African Unity and the organs of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Africa, to organize in 1994, at the level of each of the five subregions, expert workshops for the promotion of the priorities of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, the objectives, functions and operation of the diversification fund for commodities, and of the national councils on diversification in relation to how the intermediation systems can facilitate local mobilization of resources all over Africa;

13. Calls upon States and multilateral financial and trade institutions to contribute to this diversification fund with a view to making it operational not later than December 1994, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the effective establishment of the fund to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

14. Encourages African countries to establish national diversification councils, as recommended in the report of the Secretary-General, including representatives from the Government and the private sector;

15. Urges the international community to increase financial resource flows to Africa as these are crucial to regenerate growth and sustainable development of the African economies, to provide effective support to the political and economic reforms in which many African countries are now engaged and to help cushion their severe social impact;

16. Recognizes that the African debt overhang cannot be removed without, inter alia, debt and debt-service reduction and cancellation, increased financial resource flows, amelioration of the terms of trade in an open international trading system, stable international exchange rates and low international interest rates and, in this context, invites the international community to address all types of debt and all categories of debtor countries in Africa in the context of paragraphs 23 to 28 of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s in particular through the convening of an international conference on the external debt of Africa;

17. Urges States that have not yet met the target of providing 0.7 per cent of gross national product in official development assistance, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 2626 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, to fulfil that target during this decade and provide a better environment for the realization of a 4 per cent real growth in annual financial resource flows to Africa, as outlined in the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;

18. Requests the Secretary-General to undertake a study recommending appropriate measures to improve further financial intermediation systems and practices in African countries to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session which should take into account an in-depth analysis of the current financial intermediation systems and practices and the kind of support measures the international community could provide;

19. Urges African countries to continue their efforts for the improvement of the investment climate, and also urges donor countries to support those efforts by, inter alia, providing increased assistance to social and economic infrastructure rehabilitation and development;

20. Requests Governments and organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to take appropriate measures in order to implement the commitments contained in the Tokyo Declaration and to take other initiatives, as may be necessary, with the participation of interested parties from Africa and the international community, to ensure an effective follow-up of the Conference;

21. Decides to include an item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s" in the agenda of its fiftieth session.